

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (currently amended): A method ~~The use of a furin inhibitor in the manufacture of a medicament~~ for reducing scarring during the healing of wounds, ~~[[or]]~~ reducing fibrosis in the treatment of fibrotic conditions, or for preventing or inhibiting scar formation or fibrosis, comprising wherein the medicament is topically applied applying a furin inhibitor to a [the] site of a wound or fibrotic disorder or to a site where a wound may form or fibrosis may occur.

2. (currently amended): The method defined in ~~use according to~~ claim 1 wherein the inhibitor is a serine protease inhibitor.

3. (currently amended): The method defined in claim 1 ~~use according to any preceding claim~~ wherein the inhibitor is lipid soluble.

4. (currently amended): The method defined in ~~use according to~~ claim 2 wherein the inhibitor is a peptidyl chloroalkylketone having a peptide moiety which mimics at least one convertase enzyme cleavage site.

5. (currently amended): The method defined in ~~use according to~~ claim 2 wherein the inhibitor is decanoyl-RVKR-cmk.

6. (currently amended): The method defined in ~~use according to claim 1 or claim 2~~ wherein the inhibitor is water soluble.

7. (currently amended): The method defined in ~~use according to~~ claim 6 wherein the inhibitor is hexa-arginine.

8. (currently amended): The method defined in ~~use according to any preceding claim 15~~ for treating wounds to inhibit or prevent scar formation.

9. (currently amended): The method defined in ~~use according to~~ claim 8 for inhibiting or preventing scarring of the eye, nervous tissue or intestines.

10. (currently amended): The method defined in ~~use according to~~ claim 8 for inhibiting or preventing dermal scarring.

11. (currently amended): The method defined in ~~use according to~~ claim 8 for inhibiting or preventing scarring following a burn.

12. (currently amended): The method defined in claim 1 ~~use according to any one of claims 1 to 7~~ for reducing fibrosis in the treatment of fibrotic conditions.

13. (currently amended): The method defined in ~~use according to~~ claim 12 wherein the fibrotic condition is a fibrotic disorder selected from glomerulonephritis, cirrhosis of the liver, fibrocytic disease, adhesions or restenosis.

14. (new): A composition comprising an effective amount of a furin inhibitor for reducing scarring during the healing of wounds, reducing fibrosis in the treatment of fibrotic conditions, or for preventing scar formation or fibrosis, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

15. (new): A method of inhibiting the generation of TGF- $\beta$ 1 comprising applying a furin inhibitor to a site where TGF- $\beta$ 1 is generated.

16. (new): A method of claim 15 wherein said site is a site of platelet activation.

17. (new): A composition comprising a TGF- $\beta$ 1 generation inhibiting effective amount of a furin inhibitor and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.